

# MESSAGE OF THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR TO THE PEOPLE OF MAINE

## WAGNER BILL IS SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION BY STATE BRANCH PRESIDENT AT MEETING AT OLD TOWN AUGUST 11

Jean D'Arignon, Newly-Elected Leader of Maine State Federation of Labor, Refers to Bill as the Salvation of Workers—Urges All Wage Earners to Ensure Future Welfare by Enrolling in Bona Fide Trade Unions.

The aims and objects of the Wagner-Corcoran National Labor Relations Act was ably discussed by Jean D'Arignon, recently elected president of the Maine State Federation of Labor, in a stirring address in Old Town City Hall on Sunday evening, August 11th.

Mr. D'Arignon said an unorganized worker who is interested in his or her future welfare, should read the entire contents of the Wagner-Corcoran Act and feel certain they would be convinced their best interests lie in membership in bona fide trade unions.

"A careful perusal of the bill," the speaker said, "will show that it guarantees every worker a square deal, but that it is largely dependent on the strength and stability of the organized workers."

"President Roosevelt sent the bill to the Senate on March 18, 1935, and the workers of the United States are now waiting for it to be passed."

Mr. D'Arignon said the workers of the nation were waiting for the bill to be passed, and that it was the duty of every worker to ensure its passage by enrolling in bona fide trade unions.

Buyers of woolens and worsteds who control the New York market in these commodities are a pretty hard bunch, according to Organizer George Jabar, of the U. T. W. A., who told the delegates at the monthly meeting of the Maine Textile Council, held in Dexter on Saturday, August 10th, he had been told by a mill manager while in conference recently, that wages paid textile workers employed in the manufacture of woolens and worsteds were dictated in a large measure by this aggregation.

"I said, 'I wonder how they do it—how they get away with it?' and he said, 'They have a lot of money and they can buy their way out of anything they want to do.'"

We have been told time and again that the bunch of chiselers in New York had been largely responsible for the deplorable conditions existing in the industry, and that which was the principal cause for low wages and adding to the machine load, but reports to the effect that they attempt to dictate wages is new, and one that should add an extra urge to all workers who, for some reason or other, have failed to get into the organization.

Mr. Jabar gave an outline of progress in organizing woolens and worsted mills in Maine and throughout New England, for that matter, said the speaker, but there is much more to be done, and drastic means should be taken at the next meeting for starting an organizing drive that will put all textile centers in the State.

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## First Law Making Labor Day a Legal Holiday Passed in 1887

Now Every State in the Union, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, the Philippine Islands and Puerto Rico Have Labor Day Statutes.

The Central Labor Union of New York City started Labor Day on its way as a general holiday on May 18, 1882, when the Central body adopted the plan presented by P. J. McGuire, founder of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, that one day in each year should be set aside as a special holiday for working men and women.

On the first Monday in September, 1882, the Central Labor Union sponsored the first Labor Day parade—which was reviewed in Union Square by prominent labor leaders and ended with a celebration and speeches in the city hall.

Following the New York City celebration, several municipalities passed ordinances making the first Monday in September a municipal holiday.

By 1890, the custom of celebrating Labor Day had spread to all the States, and in 1894, it was made a national holiday by an act of Congress.

Parades, floats, music, speaking, sports, fireworks, dancing, to mark this year's celebration on Greater Scale Than Ever—Governor Briggs, Robert C. Fechner, J. H. Tighe, P. M. Hunt New Brunswick Federation of Labor, Frank C. Benton, A. F. L. Organizer, and Others Slated as Speakers—Large Delegations Expected From All Parts of the State.

Maine Labor will celebrate Labor Day this year on a greater scale than ever before. This is indicated by the enthusiasm manifested by committee members in the textile industry. The organizing of more than 35,000 workers in that industry during the past two years, brought about the development of many new leaders in the trade union movement, who are now active in the activities of workers engaged in the textile industry.

The enactment of the Wagner-Corcoran Labor Disputes Act and the Social Security Act is a great step forward in the efforts to stage celebrations that will surpass all previous occasions.

In Brunswick, where the celebration of Labor Day is sponsored by U. T. W. A. Local 225, brings a series of events in the activities of workers engaged in the textile industry.

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## Desire for Affiliating With Bona Fide Unions Among Employees in Mass Industries Greatly Increased During Past Few Weeks

Assistance of Local Organizers Sought by Many Groups  
Now Part of Company or Independent Unions, Who See  
Advantages Offered Through Enactment of Disputes  
Act and Protection From Security Legislation—  
Workers Greatly Interested and Seek Information Regarding Cost of Charter, Initiation Fees and Dues.

The enactment of the Wagner-Corcoran Labor Disputes Act and the Social Security Act last week, brought new life to hundreds of thousands of workers employed in mass production industries, who, when the United States Supreme Court declared the NRA unconstitutional, had lost heart and wondered how far they would go in their efforts to organize.

In many instances, workers who had been employed in mass industries to organize and bargain collectively through their chosen representatives, as contained in Section 7 (a) of the Wagner-Corcoran Labor Disputes Act, are now turning to local labor organizations for assistance.

Discrimination with regard to hire or tenure of employment, designed to discourage membership in any labor organization, is prohibited.

Discrimination against workers who file charges against their employers, or who testify in proceedings to enforce the law, is prohibited.

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## "Only Force Can Save the Newspaper and Pulp Industry"

President John P. Burke, Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, in Stirring Address in Augusta, Says "That Force is the Force of Organized Labor"—Resolutions Adopted and Conference Planned With Governor Briggs.

Two hundred delegates, representing 12,000 employees in Maine employ in the newspaper and pulp industry, listened to a stirring address by John P. Burke, president of the Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, and others, in St. John's Hall, Augusta, on Sunday, August 18th.

The object of the meeting, said it was proposed to adopt resolutions requesting the enactment of the new Labor Disputes Act, which would protect the newspaper and pulp industry from foreign competition.

In his address, President Burke said: "Only force can save the newspaper and pulp industry. That force is the force of organized labor."

Other speakers at the meeting included J. W. Taylor, Frank J. Briggs, and others.

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States in 1913 placed the newspaper and pulp industry in a free list there were produced in the United States mills one million, three hundred and five thousand, (1,305,000) tons of newspaper paper and imported from foreign countries only two hundred and twenty thousand (220,000) tons of newspaper paper;

WHEREAS, as a result of our government's policy of permitting the importation of newspaper paper from foreign countries, the industry has been placed in a position of financial distress;

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## Woolens and Worsteds Locals Formed into a Permanent Federation

Nearly 300 Delegates, Representing 110,000 Workers at  
Lowell Meeting, Provide for Full-Time Paid Secretary  
as Starter Toward Permanent Organization—To Conduct Federation Under Present Per Capita Tax—Headquarters to be in Providence.

The 197 local unions comprising the 110,000 members employed in woolens and worsteds throughout the country are now banded together in what is to be known as "The Woolen and Worsted Federation of the United States."

The process of formation has been going on for several months, starting with the February meeting, when a resolution was submitted by East Greenwich, R. I., Local 463 outlining plans for the Federation, and which was referred to local unions for consideration.

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## GOVERNMENT MUST BECOME PROTECTOR OF HUMAN WELFARE, SAYS GREEN

A. F. of L. President, in Labor Day Message, Says "Society Must Offer Even-Handed Opportunity for Those Who Invest Creative Labor With Those Who Invest Capital"—Claims Federal Government Has Legal Power to Regulate Industry for Social Purposes—Asserts Government Must Devise Its Method to Overrule "Any Government Authority That Blocks Social Progress."

The imperative necessity of the government assuming responsibility for the social welfare of the masses, with complete authority to enact wage legislation and regulate industry for social purposes, is stressed by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in his Labor Day Message prepared for the Official and Worker Labor Press.

Mr. Green emphasized that this principle involves equality of opportunity for both those who invest labor and capital.

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## BILL TO CURE EVILS OF TEXTILE INDUSTRY OFFERED IN CONGRESS

Washington, D. C., Aug. 14 (I.L.N.S.)—A bill to regulate and license the entire textile industry in all of the United States, and to provide for the rehabilitation of the industry and preserve the jobs of the workers, was introduced in the House by Congressman Henry E. Steiwer of Pennsylvania, on Sunday, August 11th.

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# A.F.L. URGES AMERICA TO ENFORCE BOYCOTT ON ALL GERMAN GOODS

**Latest Persecutions Against Jews and Catholics  
in Germany Vindicate Labor's Boycott,  
Says President William Green**

**Federation's Head Calls Upon Government to Protest  
Against Nazi Regime's Acts of Barbarism—Says Time  
Has Come When German Government Must Be Shown  
That Acts Are Despised by the Entire American People.**

Washington, D. C., Aug. 10 (ILNS)—Speaking for the American Federation of Labor, William Green, president, renewed and emphasized his denunciation of the Nazi regime in Germany. After a brief summary of recent events in Germany, Mr. Green said:

"All this horrible treatment accorded residents of Germany is the acrid, unadorned, by further drive against the Jews and Catholics of Germany."

"It is time to vindicate the action of the A. F. of L. in declaring a boycott against German goods and German service. Every man and woman who loves liberty, justice and freedom must protest against the brutal action of Hitler and his government against the free democratic trade unions, the Jewish people, and the German Catholics."

While the chief basis of this protest is the atrocious persecution of Jews and Catholics, suddenly revived in Germany, organized labor has a quite sufficient grievance against the Nazi regime on its own account.

German Labor's Film Review—The German trade unions embody most of what was best in modern Germany. Even under Kaiserism, the trade unions of Germany wielded a powerful influence; and they furnished the heart and brains of the German republic. Unemployment insurance was

adopted at the direct demand of the German trade unions. Libraries, medical clinics, convalescent homes, labor universities and vocational training schools all were started by trade unions.

All these have been taken over for the worse by the Nazis. Labor unions themselves are abolished. The accumulated wealth of the treasuries of these unions have been put in charge of the "Labor Front," a device of the Nazis; and how it works may be judged by the fact that all these monies are handled by the treasurer of the Nazi party.

## Calls for Action

"In behalf of the American Federation of Labor, I repeat its official protest," said Mr. Green. "The time has arrived when Germany ought to be boycotted, not only by labor and its friends, but by all the people of the United States."

"Furthermore, in the light of historical events, it would appear that the action which has arrived when our own government ought to take appropriate steps to demand, providing for a cessation of the brutal, inhuman treatment being perpetrated upon the labor people who wish to preserve their democratic trade unions in Germany, and upon the Jewish people and the Catholics."

Mr. Hopkins said the board will advise him on labor policies connected with nation-wide work relief projects and also keep him informed regarding conditions affecting the workers through reports made by administrators and labor executives of the Works Progress Administration.

Father Hias is not so novice in handling labor disputes. He served the Labor Advisory Board of the National Recovery Administration and on the National Labor Relations Board. He was also labor member of the General Code Authority.

Mr. Wilson is well known and liked by the entire American labor movement. He lives in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In addition to being president of the Pattern Makers, he was a vice president of the American Federation of Labor from 1924 to 1934 and the United States Representative at many of the recent International Labor Conferences in Geneva, Switzerland. He has chosen a member of the Cincinnati City Council at the last election.

## Hopkins Names Wharton to Head Work Relief Labor Policies Board

James Wilson and Rev. F. J. Hias Are Also Members of Group Who Will Advise Disputes Involving \$20,000 Employed on Government Projects.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 10 (ILNS)—Harry L. Hopkins, Works Progress Administration Administrator, appointed Arthur O. Wharton, president of the International Association of Machinists and fifth

Representative of 110 trade unions, to a meeting in Renaissance Casino here, Tuesday, to discuss the possibility of amending race prejudice and discrimination from the trade union movement. The delegates, Negro and white, will set up a permanent organization to work for race unity within the framework of the American Federation of Labor.

William Wilson, President of the A. F. of L., expressed his approval of the plan in a letter to the conference. He reaffirmed the Federation's determination to guard the "economic rights of all classes of people regardless of race, color or nationality."

"We are constantly endeavoring," Mr. Green said, "to promote a condition which all international unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor should with unanimous authority, will conform to the declarations and principles of the A. F. of L. itself regarding the

admission of members without regard to race, creed or nationality. We are certain that time, patience and good judgment will bring about a solution of our vexed problem."

Frank R. Crosswath, organizer for the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, was chairman of the meeting. In the keynote address he said:

"We know that race prejudice is just as much a part of America as is the Constitution, but we are resolved to fight to abolish it from the labor movement."

Resolutions were adopted by the convention demanding removal of the color bar in labor groups, urging Federal legislation against lynching, recommending the 35-hour week, favoring a constitutional amendment giving Congress power to regulate labor and industry, and asking Negro workers to devote at least one Sunday a month to consideration of the economic plight of their workmen.

Arthur O. Wharton, president of the American Federation of Labor, chairman of a three-man labor policies board whose function will be to arbitrate labor disputes arising under the \$4,800,000 work relief program which plans to transfer 500,000 unemployed from relief rolls to jobs on Government projects.

The other two members of the board are the Rev. Francis J. Hias, director of the department of social sciences of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, and James Wilson, former president of the Pattern Makers' League of North America.

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Business is climbing in Great Britain, and a bill introduced in Parliament is designed to make it flourish more rapidly.

This is the cotton spinning industry bill. One reason why Japan is so anxious so much of Britain's former textile market is that at least a quarter of British mills are obsolete, or so near it that they cannot compete in a world market.

The cotton spinning industry bill creates a Spindles Board, and gives it about \$10,000,000 to start. The Board is to buy up and dismantle about one-fourth of all British spindles—the out-of-date fourth, of course. This is a loan from the government, to be repaid by a tax on all remaining textile mills. The argument is that, with this dead weight thrown overboard, the British textile industry can meet Japan in the world market without fear.

In many ways, this plan is much like the AAA plan in this country; but there is one big difference. Britain has no Supreme Court.

**Great Britain Tries  
Comeback on Cotton**

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**THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR**

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**AND AT THE  
MINERVA  
CAFETERIA  
and GRILL**

**672 Congress St.  
Portland, Maine**

## TRADE UNIONS SEEK TO END ALL FORMS OF RACE DISCRIMINATION

**President Green Says American Federation of Labor Desires to Protect All Workers, "Regardless of Creed, Color or Nationality"—110 Trade Unions Represented at Meeting in Renaissance Hall, New York.**

New York, N. Y., Aug. 10 (AP)—Representatives of 110 trade unions, at a meeting in Renaissance Casino here, Tuesday, to discuss the possibility of amending race prejudice and discrimination from the trade union movement. The delegates, Negro and white, will set up a permanent organization to work for race unity within the framework of the American Federation of Labor.

William Wilson, President of the A. F. of L., expressed his approval of the plan in a letter to the conference. He reaffirmed the Federation's determination to guard the "economic rights of all classes of people regardless of race, color or nationality."

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## SEARS Decidedly Helps Maine Industries

Interesting facts of Sears expenditures in the State of Maine. During the last few years Sears has purchased in the PINE TREE STATE from 17 manufacturing sources in 13 cities.

**Paper - Shoes - Boots - Toys**

— AND —

**Miscellaneous Merchandise**

TO THE EXTENT OF

**\$12,110,010.00**

More than 70% of this imposing sum or about \$8,477,000 was spent in Portland manufacturing area of a 50 mile radius—equivalent to about \$25 per capita for every one of the 330,000 men, women and children living in this territory.

**MAINE MADE PAPER**

Purchased in the last few years totaled more than \$4,000,000. About 2 pounds of Maine newsprint goes into every one of the millions of Sears big General Catalogues, issued twice a year.

**Maine Made Merchandise**

is purchased and distributed for sale throughout the nation in Sears 446 Retail Stores and 10 large mail order plants.

Sears purchasing in Maine has helped this State to maintain its industrial position and has kept thousands of its citizens in steady employment.

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# The Labor News

Official Organ of the  
MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR  
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AUGUST, 1935

## Placing More of the Burden of Taxation on the Rich

President's Tax Plan for Increasing \$50 Million in Revenue Intended to Provide Living Means for Army of Unemployed.

President Roosevelt's recommendation to Congress that legislation be enacted to impose larger taxes on the wealthy to help defray the necessary expenses of the Government brought forth a chorus of opposition from those subversive groups who believe that under the American flag there should be two economic classes, the rich and the poor, and that the duty of the poor is to slave all of their lives for a scant living in good times and exist on public or private charity in bad times.

According to the President's plan, the increased tax on big incomes would net about \$40,000,000. Inheritance and higher gift taxes would yield about \$20,000,000. The larger tax on corporation incomes would yield about \$10,000,000. The three increases total only \$34,000,000.

The new tax plan places more of the burden of taxation on the rich, who are able to pay it without reducing their living standards, and relieves those with small incomes of taxes which would necessarily reduce their living standards.

One feature of the President's recommendation should not be overlooked. It is the influence which the increased taxes on larger incomes, and especially the inheritance and gift taxes, will have on breaking up accumulations of wealth and thus indirectly bring about a redistribution of wealth. This objective is commendable.

Increased taxes on larger incomes and inheritance is a fundamental policy of the American Federation of Labor and was unanimously approved by the delegates to the 1934 Convention of that organization.

## Time for Serious Thinking! Stop Squawking!

Opponents of Administration Urged to Support Constructive Means to Provide for \$5,000,000 People Dependent on Government for Assistance.

The best answer we can think of to those who are opposing the Administration in spending money to bring about recovery, is that something out of the ordinary must be done to take care of 35,000,000 people—11 millions of whom are permanently unemployed, 15 millions partly employed, and their dependents.

Now, if any business man, economist or politician can point out how this can be done without increasing taxes, he is a wonder, and should be holding down the position of President of the United States, Secretary of the Treasury, or some other job where he could make himself exceptionally useful to the nation.

Where is this great genius? We looked for men of that stamp in 1932-1933, when the nation's business was on the verge of bankruptcy. The so-called supermen—those before whom we bended the knee because of their past records as big money-makers, were at a complete loss as to what to do. They were licked to a frazzle and didn't know which way to turn. Their businesses were rapidly going to the dogs, but not a single one of them could suggest a remedy.

The people brought forth a Roosevelt—all hailed him as the savior of the nation. He did things in a big way. Of course, it took a lot of money, but while recovery was in the making, there were no faults found. The super-men had been given a lift and their businesses were quickly recuperating.

When this was accomplished, however, they called a halt. There was no fault found while they were "getting things," but when it came to providing for millions

of workers whom private industry could not absorb, they decided it should be stopped. Spending billions to provide work for these was termed "abominable extravagance." They saw where part of their millions accumulated as profits would have to be paid back to the Government in the way of taxes to meet this great emergency.

Hence, the present opposition on the part of newspaper, politicians and others against the Administration, which is doing all it possibly can to provide work, and which seems to be the only means whereby the nation can recover from the terrible conditions prevailing in March, 1933, when President Roosevelt assumed office.

Until the so-called super-men of this country can conceive any other plan to provide means for taking care of the 35,000,000 people who need assistance, the present policy of the government must continue, and those fortunate enough to hold steady jobs with good incomes might as well make up their minds now that, for the time being at least, they must foot the bills.

## A Great Nation Gone Back to Dark Ages

Spectacle Which Nazi Germany Presents Today in Defiance Against Religious Faith, Borders on Malicious Impiety.

The Nazi government of Germany has renewed its drive against Jews. Not so many of that race are being murdered now as when the Nazi enthusiasm was fresh; but they are being clubbed and otherwise maltreated on the streets; and the government boycott on their activities is making it even more difficult for them to earn a living. Yet those who leave Germany are not allowed to take money or property with them. They are almost literally between the devil and the deep sea.

The strangeness of this mediaeval persecution is as striking as its viciousness. Germany is persecuting the Jews—but a surprising proportion of German genius and talent of the last 50 years has come from Jewish homes. Einstein, foremost mathematician of the world today, is a German Jew; Willettter, one of the world's foremost chemists, is another; and both have been driven into exile by the insane brutalities of the Nazis.

Both were offered personal immunity to return and resume their teaching in Germany; and both refused. Einstein's answer to the proposal that he return to the country that was robbing, imprisoning and murdering his people is said to have been picturesque as well as forceful.

While exceptional men, these are not at all exceptional cases. Germany has long suffered from the deference to Big Business which reached its height in this country not long ago; and Albert Ballin, chief shipmaster and one of the big financiers of Germany, was also a Jew. So was Paul Ehrlich, discoverer of the salvarsan treatment for syphilis; and Maximilian Harden, the only German publicist and editor who kept some elements of sanity during the war period, was not only a Jew, but a Polish Jew.

Yet, the lunatic malice of German Nazism is not turned solely against the Jews. Workers of any creed have to bear a part of this bedevilment; and the abolition of German labor unions and the confiscation of their funds was one of the first "blessings" which the Nazis conferred on Germany. The latest step of the insane regime is to forbid all youth and athletic societies which have a religious flavor. The Catholics are feeling the club just now, but the Lutherans may get it next week.

A great nation gone back to the dark that is the spectacle which Nazi Germany presents today. On the one hand, it drives out the land's greatest men; and on the other it forbids Catholic boys to go out on hikes, as Catholics. Can malicious imbecility go much farther?

## Not All Public Utilities Are Bad

"Let the Truth Prevail," Says Industrial News Review, "But Don't Blame All for Actions of Few Dis- honest Men."

As the Senate investigation into the activities of one large electric holding company in opposing the Wheeler-Rayburn bill develops, the danger becomes great that the public may be led to believe that the utility industry as a whole approves or pursues unethical, misleading and dishonest practices.

Evidence so far indicates that the company under investigation used reprehensible lobbying methods to defeat the proposed anti-holding company legislation. Every effort should be made to uncover such activities, to publicize and to punish them. But a grave injustice will be done if the force of newspaper scare-heads plus denunciatory comments by various government officials, results in a widespread belief that one company is representative of the utility business.

It will be remembered that some years

ago, when the so-called "power issue" first came into the national spotlight, the acts of a handful of companies were responsible for it—the same thing is true today.

The utility industry did oppose aggressively, frankly and openly—the Wheeler-Rayburn bill, in the belief that its passage was unnecessary and unjustifiable, and would do untold damage to its stockholders, employees and customers. The industry's representatives appeared before House and Senate committees and presented their side of the case. The industry sent out press releases—properly signed and credited—in order to provide the public with facts and opinions necessary for reaching a logical decision on the issue at stake. The industry, in order to do this, created an organization called "The Committee of Public Utility Executives," of which Philip H. Gadsden of the United Gas Improvement Company, universally believed to be one of the best and most progressive of holding companies, is chairman. The holding company which committed the acts probed by the Senate, was not a member of the Committee.

On July 18, Mr. Gadsden, on behalf of the Committee, went to Senator Black, chairman of the Senate Committee investigating lobbying activities, in part, as follows: "It is, to say the least, unfortunate that representatives of any company should so depart from the standards set by the utility industry in general. It is acts like this, committed by a small number of companies, which have brought discredit upon the industry and which have made it necessary for us to come to Washington and defend ourselves against a bill seeking to destroy us."

Improper or questionable practices are found in any business or calling, and in government itself. But they are the exception, not the rule. That is true of the utility industry, no industry maintains higher ethical standards than the more conscientious in discharging its public obligations. Any attempt to make it appear that sharp practices are typical of the whole industry is extremely unfair and is uncalled for.

## Big Business Cries Before it is Hit

Eagerness to Head Off Substitute for NRA is Interrupted by Added Confidence in Government by Investors on an Unprecedented Business Gain in Some Industries.

Big Business, furiously eager to head off any law that might replace NRA or otherwise bring benefits to labor, is trying to frighten the country by proclaiming: That the New Deal is putting the country on the toboggan.

That investors have lost confidence in the government of the United States.

That business cannot revive until Big Business has its own way, with no interference from either unions or the government.

Before getting worried over these outcries, consider the following items from one day's news:

Government securities went up everywhere throughout the list, and 12 issues reached higher prices than ever before. The Treasury offered \$100,000,000 of bonds bearing a 4-7/8 per cent interest and maturing in 1950—25 years hence. Investors offered \$511,000,000.

Only 14 banks suspended in the first six months of 1935. Figures for half years back of the present year are not available; but 57 banks suspended in 1934.

Steel output gained 11 per cent in one week.

General Motors is paying an extra dividend in August.

In the light of these business and financial facts, all the outcry and attempt to raise a scare are merely silly. Just one thing is holding back recovery. Big Business still refuses to give labor a square deal and the government has not yet been able to force Big Business to act fairly—though much progress has been made in that direction.

## A Lesson From the Steel Companies

Justice Brandeis' Statement That Corporations as Well as Employees Can Grow Too Big for Efficiency Provokes History of Steel During Past Two Years.

The American Iron and Steel Institute last week made an announcement that will delight Mr. Justice Brandeis. It said: "Generally speaking, the larger the companies, the smaller the return on their capital during those two years."

By "small" steel companies, the Institute means those with less than \$1,000,000 capital, each. Justice Brandeis has always insisted that corporations as well as empires can grow too big for efficiency. In the railroad world, the roads which were a synonym for prosperity in the old days when there was real prosperity for railroads, were nearly all comparatively small lines. They included the old New Haven—before Charles S. Mellen and J. P. Morgan had pumped fictitious capital into it by the

hundred millions, in the effort to secure a transportation monopoly of New England.

Among other prosperous and comparatively small roads were the Altoona and Ohio—before the Zimmermann-Hollins looted it blind and sold it as a gold brick to the House of Morgan, the Michigan Central, which supplied most of the prosperity to its owner, the New York Central. The Norfolk & Western ought to be mentioned in this connection; and all the roads named back up Justice Brandeis' contention.

Surveys have shown a similar condition in merchandising and farming. In each industry, a certain size is discoverable, beyond which a business grows by aggression, not by service, and the profits accrue more to inside manipulation than to real investment. And now, we have the same story in steel.

It is worth noting that the two years in which small steel companies beat the big ones were also the years in which there was some measure of government supervision of the steel business, and even a faint, far-off semblance of fair play.

## The Constitution and the Processing Tax

\$467,000 Tax Protested by Flour Company Was Paid by Consumers, But Court Forbids Government to Collect It.

The Federal Circuit Court of Appeals at Boston has held that the Agricultural Adjustment Act is unconstitutional. This opinion was handed down in the Hoosie Mills Case in which the company is seeking to escape payments due to the Secretary of Agriculture under the processing tax. The amount involved is \$81,694.

Last week, the Collector of Internal Revenue was restrained by a preliminary injunction granted to the Larabee Flour Mills Company of Kansas City, Missouri, from collecting \$467,000 in wheat processing taxes. As reported by the Department of Agriculture, the margin between the price of a bushel of wheat and value of milled product was immediately increased in the summer of 1933 so that the miller was fully protected.

The taxes have been passed on to the final consumers, so that those who now protest the tax seek to put themselves in a position to profit directly. Under recent decisions of the Supreme Court, there are definite limitations to the extent to which we can go in enacting social legislation, and yet the business interests find methods by which their margins can be protected despite the Supreme Court or because of the Supreme Court.

If we study the after-effects of the Schechter decision we find that here too, the gains of industry have been largely preserved, while the way toward true social progress has been temporarily blocked. Wouldn't it be a good plan for the government to cause an examination of that company's books and by this means determine what disposition was made of this huge sum? Perhaps such an investigation would convince the Court "there's something rotten in Denmark."

## THE "PEACEFUL" SLUM

Suit by a property owner stopped for a time the effort of the government to clear a slum in Washington. The matter was settled out of court; but the owner declared that the property condemned was "well kept up," constituted a "quiet, peaceful community," and that the government should not interfere with it.

Investigation, however, showed that the houses in the row to be torn down have no gas, no electricity, no running water, except a hydrant in the rear of each house; that sewage water is poured down open catch basins beside the hydrants; that the houses are damp and mildewy, and inhabited only by those too poor to get anything better.

In England that property owner would have got nothing except the price of the land. Here, the owner got a tidy sum in addition. That is why slum clearing is cheaper and goes faster in England than in America.

## ITALIANS TIGHTEN THEIR BELTS

Mussolini's mobilization for a row with Ethiopia is bringing some of the results suggested on this page weeks ago. Wholesale prices in that country have now climbed from an index of 260 before Mussolini threw his African fit to an index of 325. No corresponding increase in wages has been heard of, nor is there anything to show that the rise has stimulated production.

The Italian worker never has had a generous diet. Now, he must draw his belt tighter because "Il Duce" seeks glory in tropical Africa. If Mussolini could be persuaded to lead his troops in person, all might soon be well.

## Lewis Will Make Labor Day Talk at Charleston

John E. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, and Van A. Hittner, president of District 17 of that organization, will deliver

addresses at the Labor Day celebration in Charleston, W. Va., on September 2, which will be held under the auspices of District 17. The labor unions of the Kanawha Valley will take part in a parade celebration as usual. It is expected that trade unionists from all over West Virginia will come to Charleston to witness the wonderful progress the United Mine Workers of America and other labor organizations have made in the region during the last two years.

JOHN E. LEWIS

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## LABOR QUERIES

Questions and Answers on Labor. What It Has Done; Where It Stands on Problems of the Day; Its Aims and Program; Who's Who in the Ranks of the Organized Workers, etc., etc.

Q—How many states now have old age pension laws?  
A—There are twenty-seven states now having such laws.

Q—What is the "Labor Chest"?  
A—This is the popular name of the National Fund for Labor, which is approved by the American Federation of Labor. It is a fund to fight Fascism and Nazism, emphasize the boycott against Germany, and to provide relief funds for the relief of the victims of European dictatorship. It is housed in the Chest at 3 West 14th Street, New York City.

Q—Are there any states which still have no workmen's compensation laws?  
A—Arkansas, Mississippi and South Carolina remain without legislation to compensate injured workmen.

Q—How many states now have laws to maintain their summer schools?  
A—Twenty-four states have laws to maintain their summer schools. The United States summer school opened at Runkles College, Oxford, July 8, and has been in session since then. Many of the students are from Germany and were present, mainly sent by their unions.

Q—Why was it necessary for the National Guard to march in Terre Haute when Federal officials were working successfully to end the general strike?  
A—Obviously, it wasn't necessary; but it is common to be a habit.

Q—Who said: "The general object of the American Federation of Labor is to better the conditions of working men in all fields of human activity. Economic betterment in all directions comes first."  
A—Samuel Gompers.

Q—How many local unions affiliated with the A. F. of L. are there?  
A—There are about 35,000 local unions affiliated with national and international unions. In addition, there are 1,500 local unions directly affiliated with the Federation, the latest compilation shows.

Q—What trade union executive is now in London visiting the city?  
A—E. C. Davidson, secretary-treasurer of the International Association of Machinists, who is now in Alexandria.

Q—Has the International Typographical Union decided to hold a convention this year?  
A—Yes. A referendum on postponing the convention resulted in a majority in favor of postponement and the convention will be held as scheduled at Montreal, September 10 to 14.

Q—What does the Wagner Labor Disputes Act say in regard to the right to strike?  
A—Section 13 says: "Nothing in this act shall be construed so as to interfere with or impede or diminish in any way the right to strike."

Q—Will the International Photographers Union of North America have a convention this year?  
A—Yes. The union will hold its 36th annual convention at Cleveland, Ohio, August 19 to 24.

Q—What did the first convention of the American Federation of Labor say about the right to work?  
A—The convention declared for the eight-hour day, urging that all wage earners "grasp the meaning, the power, the force, the value and the right."

Q—Who said: "The judge has no more right than any other official to decide for the people what the people ought to think about the questions of labor?"  
A—This was said by Samuel Gompers, who is now in Alexandria.

Q—When were federal delegates sent by the American Federation of Labor to the Trades Union Congress in London?  
A—The delegates were Samuel Gompers and P. J. McGuire.

It will be greatly appreciated, if when making purchases from our advertisers, you will please mention The Labor News.



## Reorganizing Drum Corps to Participate in Brunswick Parade

Brunswick, Aug. 19.—Of local interest, in regard to the Labor Day parade and celebration to be held here is the announcement that the re-organized Brunswick Drum Corps is to take part in the parade.

This organization disbanded about 16 years ago, but this summer most of the old members met and decided to get into action again. About 18 men have already signed up.

Plans for a bigger and better outfit have been made and many new uniforms and instruments have been ordered.

The officers elected are: Drum Major, Louis Labbe; president, Orla Thibault; vice-president, Alfred Salton; secretary, Andrew Bonchard; treasurer, Louis Labbe; director of drums, René Deschamps; director of piccolo, Orla Thibault.

## Rhode Island Vote Not Protest Against President Roosevelt

Newspapers opposed to the New Deal and which are showing especial antagonism toward President Roosevelt, are "all wet" in their opinions regarding this result of the Congressional election in Rhode Island during the month.

The rebuke administered at the August 6th election was of a purely local nature and not one that in any way can be taken against the New Deal or the President, is the opinion expressed by more prominently identified with the organization in Rhode Island.

In a telephone conversation with Cornelius J. Mulcahy, legislative agent for the Rhode Island State Federation of Labor, he told the writer that O. O. P. newspapers and politicians and renegade Democrats, have an entirely wrong view of the results, stating that the working people of Rhode Island still retain most implicit confidence in the President and his efforts to stabilize employment through the New Deal, but that their vote on Tuesday strongly indicated a protest against the manner in which local officials interpreted the law relative to prevailing wages on ERA, PWA and WPA projects.

Organized Labor and sympathizers sought this means for making known to the Washington administration that the great portion of unemployed workers who, through pride in their citizenship, refused to register themselves as recipients of aid from the municipal, county and state, were determined not to permit reductions from prevailing wage rates without making a struggle.

There are other matters, Mr. Mulcahy says, that were responsible for Mr. Prine's defeat, as well as the result of the vote cast against Governor Green's bond issues.

The indifference manifested against Labor legislation at the regular and special sessions of the Rhode Island Legislature played a non-important part in the August 6th election, he said, and the vote as he sees it was a sound warning to legislators that Rhode Island Labor is greatly displeased over the attitude displayed by the small consideration given Labor's bills.

Another reason advanced was that

the large contingent of union textile workers were anything but satisfied regarding the Governor's action in calling out the militia in last year's general textile strike. This was regarded as entirely unnecessary, and brought about such animosity against the State administration as to start a movement for a Labor party in the State.

Sending a note of confidence on the part of the bank and die of the workers in Rhode Island, Mr. Mulcahy said he felt President Roosevelt's confidence that the protest does not reflect against his plans to bring about employment or against the principles promulgated by him in the New Deal, but is a solemn protest against State and local administration which he said was greatly augmented since an attempt was made to make paupers of respectable, sincere and capable workers.

## ONLY FORCE CAN SAVE

(Continued from Page 1)

two million, one hundred and three thousand (2,103,000) tons while only nine hundred and fifty-seven thousand (957,000) tons were made in United States mills, and

WHEREAS, The excessive importation of foreign newspaper paper has resulted in reducing the price of this important commodity to levels which resulted in the closing of many mills in the United States or compelled manufacturers to change their machinery to make other grades of paper, thus intensifying the competition in these grades of paper, all of which has prevented the normal development of this sector.

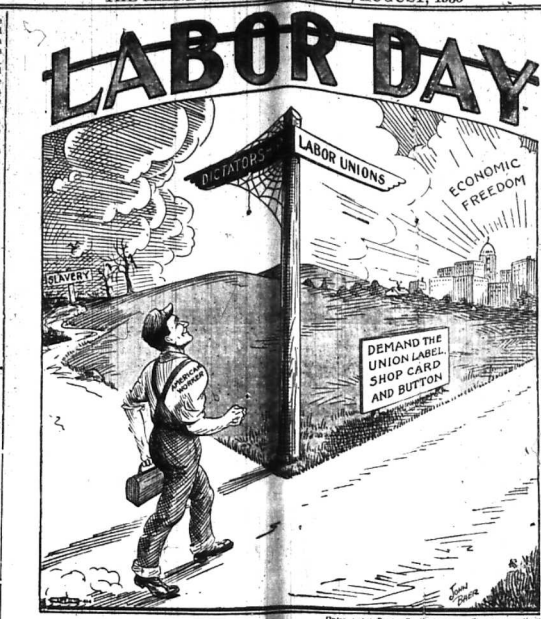
WHEREAS, The figures for newspaper production for paper in the United States for the first seven months of 1935 show that United States mills have produced only six per cent (6%) less tonnage than for the corresponding months of last year (1934), while every other paper producing country in North America has increased its production;

WHEREAS, These figures of the decline in the production of news print paper in the United States indicate most clearly that unless this industry is given some measure of protection by the United States government there will be little, if any, newspaper paper made in the United States mills within a few years;

WHEREAS, The United States government, through the State Department, has recently negotiated a reciprocal trade treaty with Sweden, and has plans to enter negotiations shortly with the Dominion of Canada for the purpose of entering into a reciprocal trade agreement; Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this conference of delegates from paper mills among affiliated with the American Federation of Labor must respectfully urge the President of the United States and the Secretary of State to give careful consideration to the pulp and paper industry of the United States in negotiating this reciprocal trade treaty with Canada, inasmuch as imports of newspaper paper from Canadian mills, many of which are non-union and pay disgracefully low wages, are a serious threat to the livelihood of the workers in the United States newspaper industry; Be it further

RESOLVED, That in view of the fact that tariff protection has been removed from the newspaper paper industry which competes the



Union Labor Trade Dept., A. F. L., Washington, D. C.

As the above illustration shows, Labor (in the person of the American workman) is standing at the crossroads indicating two entirely different courses for him to pursue. One is the intolerable principle of Dictatorship; the other, the pathway of progress.

workers in the paper industry to compete with the low wages paid in newspaper mills in foreign countries, we most respectfully urge President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hull to give the workers in this industry at least a measure of protection by placing the importation of newspaper paper from Canada on a quota basis; and Be it further

RESOLVED, That the chairman and the secretary of this conference are hereby instructed to send a copy of this resolution to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, to Secretary of State Cordell Hull, and to the press.

## GOVERNMENT MUST

(Continued from Page 1)

did society "get this right into legal form."

"When employers refused to conform to law, labor asked that the Government be authorized to assume responsibility for preventing employers from interfering with labor's right to organize."

greas and liberty, the route of the great organized Labor Unions. This latter principle means individual safety and protection through the means of a strong organization able and prepared to enter contractual relations with great financial and economic powers. To this individually, the

workmen would be but a straw in the gale. Organization is his one and last hope for his own and his protection.

Labor Day, 1935, reaffirms and demonstrates that ever true principle, and the Union Label is the passport ticket to its fruitful fulfillment.

institutional problem by less costly means. Greater familiarity with labor and industrial problems will teach judges the need for Federal action for regulation of industry for social purposes.

"The Sovereign Nation must also establish its method of overruling any governmental authority that blocks social progress."

"This is the problem which presses for labor's solution equally with that of organizing all wage and salaried workers in strong labor unions. Organized power is the first fundamental in progress for the welfare of all who work."

"Labor Day, 1935, finds progress in both political and social organization fields. There are problems, but none that cannot be solved by courage and action. We will find a solution."

"Wage earners must first rally together in unions to fight against unfair wages and hours and to set up the machinery through which they may have representation and voice in deciding issues that affect their interests."

"The year ahead presents the challenge of great opportunities."

"The progress and the enduring development of our nation depend upon the acceptance by our Government of its responsibility for human welfare."

"An avowed purpose of our Government is to promote the general welfare, and Congress is given power to lay and collect taxes to provide for the general welfare. This, together with its power to regulate commerce between the States is the basis for labor's belief that the Federal Government has legal power to facilitate for social welfare."

"Obligation Upon Congress"

"We know that the moral and economic need for such legislation puts still further obligation upon Congress."

"Industries now organized upon a national basis, buying their crude materials from any supply center in the nation and selling in a world market, are in no sense local institutions. They can escape any regulation not national in scope."

"Unless regulated, cut-throat competition brings sweatshop labor conditions. The welfare of our 45,000,000 persons greatly employed by business enterprises depends on whether society places a restraining hand on business struggle for profits for the few and forces more equitable distribution of returns from joint work."

"Our Supreme Court has recently rebuked Congress and the Administration for their attempts to build up national regulation of work conditions and trade practices. They interpreted the Constitution so as to limit sharply the scope of interstate commerce and virtually to deny Congress the power to legislate for social welfare. But, as the Chief Justice has truly declared, 'The Constitution is what the courts say it is'—until the Supreme Court says otherwise."

"Once before when the Supreme Court blocked the path of human welfare by the Dred Scott decision, the nation wiped out that decision. It cost human blood and life and for years has blighted the economic progress of our southern States."

"We hope to solve our present con-

ditional problem by less costly means. Greater familiarity with labor and industrial problems will teach judges the need for Federal action for regulation of industry for social purposes."

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First National Stores

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Only a few years ago our coffee cost double today's price. You can readily see how much money we save.

I'M CERTAINLY GLAD MY WIFE TRIED SOME OF THIS FIRST NATIONAL COFFEE. SHE SAYS IT'S SO GOOD BECAUSE IT'S SO FRESH, BUT WHATEVER THE REASON IT'S GRAND COFFEE.

**KYBO** 1 LB TIN 19¢ 1 LB PKG 18¢  
**JOHN ALDEN** 1 LB BAG 17¢  
**RICHMOND** 1 LB BAG 14¢

## NEW 1935 PACK

## STRING BEANS

**STANDARD** CUT GREEN 2 No. 3 14¢  
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**RICHMOND** CUT GREEN 2 No. 3 21¢  
**FINAST** WHOLE REFUGEE 2 No. 3 27¢

**Gorton's Codfish Cakes** 2 10¢ 25¢

**Eveready Fruit Cocktail** 2 10¢ 27¢

**Midco Ice Box Freeze** 2 10¢ 19¢

**Diplomat Dinner** 1 LB 23¢

**Calo Dog Food** 4 10¢ 29¢

**Santa Clara Prunes** 10 lb Size 2 10¢ 17¢

**Cracked Wheat Bread** 30 or Less 9¢

**Kool Cigarettes** 100 15¢

**Raleigh Cigarettes** 2 10¢ 25¢

**Tomato Juice** Finest Pure 25 or 10¢

**Richmond Relish** Pint Jar 15¢

**FLIT** 1/2 PINT TIN 27¢  
**WHOLE MILK BREAD** 20 or 9¢

**Chipso** Flakes or Granules 2 Lbs 35¢

**Sweetheart Soap** 4 Bars 17¢

**N.B.C. FIG RINGS** LB BULK 23¢

**GRAHAMS** PREMIUM FLAKES 50 PKG 9¢

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Courses: SECRETARIAL - NORMAL - MACHINES

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## "MY DAD TREATS MY MOTHER BETTER'N YOURS DOES!"



**CHALLENGE** a boy on the ability of his Dad to do anything from whipping Dempsey to being President of the United States and you'll have a battle on your hands.

But both of these boys have a good argument. Their Dads are pretty swell. Their Mothers get a square deal and these young fellows know it. They're pretty comfortable themselves . . . and healthy! They live in homes that have been made ideal with complete electrical equipment.

Look to your home electrical needs now. This company will be glad to help you select appliances that will cut down operating costs and afford you a greater freedom. Convenient monthly terms may be easily arranged.

Take Advantage of The Displays In Our Exhibit Rooms

**CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY**

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY**

in appropriate moulds

Order from your FRO-JOY Dealer

**FRO-JOY** ICE CREAM

# P. J. McGUIRE, ORIGINATOR OF LABOR DAY PARADE, TELLS STORY OF ITS BIRTH

First Secretary of American Federation of Labor Says "Inspiration of This Holiday Came From Men in the Ranks of the Working People"

P. J. McGuire, the originator of Labor Day, in an article of the October, 1897, issue of the American Federationist, official journal of the American Federation of Labor, gave an interesting account of the birth of Labor Day in the Central Labor Union of New York City, emphasizing the fact that the idea took root among men active in uplifting their fellows and leading them to better conditions.

In view of Mr. McGuire's intimate connection with the establishment of the first Monday of September as a legal holiday for workers by every State in our union and the United States Government, and carved all the origins of Labor Day and his interpretation of its meaning are always timely.

Mr. McGuire's article, entitled "Origin and Significance of Labor Day," follows:

"On this day the hosts of labor about their households."

"From a thousand groves and hillsides, by rippling brooks and gurgling streams, comes the glad acclaim."

"No festival of martial glory or warrior's renown is this; no magnificent pomp of warlike conquest, no glory of

fraternal strife attend this day. It is dedicated to peace, civilization, to a demonstration of fraternity and the harbinger of a better age—a more cheerful and contented life, and a more well rewarded.

Honors Working People

"The festive and Christian observances have come down to us through the long ages. But it was reserved for this century, and for the American people, to give birth to Labor Day. In this they honor the toilers of the earth, and pay homage to those who had just been formed, and who from rude nature have carved all the comforts and grandeur we behold."

"More than all, the thought, the conception, was the very inspiration of this holiday came from men in the ranks of working people—men active in uplifting their fellows and leading them to better conditions."

"It came from a little group in New York City, the Central Labor Union, which had just been formed, and which in later years attained wide-spread influence."

Birth of Labor Day

"On May 5, 1882, the writer made

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR, 1935



This picture was taken while members of the Executive Council were in session in Atlantic City during the month, when numerous matters of importance were under consideration prior to the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, which is to be held in that city in October.

## RELIEF SHUT OFF TO SEND WORKERS TO HARVEST FIELDS AT MISERLY WAGES

19,000 Heads of Families Out From Relief in South Dakota—Harvest Wages There \$1.65, Without Board—Average Farm Wage of United States is \$1.41, Without Board—Story That Relief Workers Refused to Pick Berries in New Jersey is Proven Untrue.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 17 (AP).—The attempt to shut off the farm labor problem by shutting off relief until farmers have enough "hands" to harvest their crops is likely to have some very interesting results.

In South Dakota, 19,000 heads of families were out of the relief rolls as of August 15. The relief office in that State said that the average farm wage there is \$1.65 a week, without board. The average farm wage in the United States is \$1.41 a week, without board.

The average wage on farms all over the country for comparative farm work is \$1.41 a day—without board. Naturally, the American labor movement does not look kindly on forcing men to work for such wages. The relief scale for unskilled labor on farms is 40 cents an hour. Farm days are almost invariably 10 hours long, and often more, which makes the contrast sharper.

## HOUSE PASSES ASHURST'S PRISON GOODS MEASURE BARRING CONVICT LABOR PRODUCTS FROM INTERSTATE COMMERCE

Washington, D. C., July 29 (AP).—The House of Representatives passed, with practically no discussion, the Ashurst bill prohibiting, with certain exceptions, interstate transportation of prison-made products.

The bill would make it unlawful for any person knowingly to transport or cause to be transported, in any manner or by any means whatever, or aid or assist in obtaining transportation for or in transporting any goods, wares and merchandise manufactured, produced or mined wholly or in part by convicts or prisoners in interstate commerce in violation of any law of the State or Territory into which they are shipped.

The bill does not apply to commodities manufactured in Federal penal and correctional institutions for use exclusively by the Federal Government.

The object of the measure is to supplement the Hawes-Cooper Act which contains similar prohibitions but no penalty for violation. The Ashurst bill fixes a penalty of \$1,000 for each offense, together with forfeiture of the goods.

The Senate Judiciary Committee has already reported the Ashurst bill favorably but the Senate has not acted on it.

**ADVERTISE**  
your merchandise  
and it will sell!

## For Women Who Want Perfect Cooking and Baking

Here Are Four Beautiful, New Modern Gas Ranges In a Style You Want at Extraordinary Bargain Prices

INSTALLED FREE UNDER USUAL CONDITIONS

Easy Terms, As Low As \$1.62 Monthly

Your Gas Company offers these wonderful bargains by special arrangement with the manufacturers of the nationally famous QUALITY Gas Ranges.

Every woman who takes pride in her cooking and baking wants a

modern gas range. She knows it will pay for itself, for gas costs less to operate, and is quicker, more reliable than any other fuel. And more flexible with modern appliances. Bake without failures. Oven watching is not necessary. Cook whole meal in its own heat with its automatic temperature control. Broil at any speed or slowly without burning. Fry quicker, better. Cook steaks on top burners at any one of a thousand different heats. And enjoy new kitchen freedom, more leisure hours.

Come in and choose your new Gas Range. We'll accept your old range in full payment. And there are no interest charges with our easy terms of payment.

With Your Old Range \$38.85

Regularly \$66.50  
Four round Quicktop burners. Automatic top lighting. Blinged cover. Baking and broiling oven. Quicktop. Black enamel finish. Pull enamel finish. (Quality Series A5400)

With Your Old Range \$53.85

Regularly \$72.50  
Four round Quicktop burners. Automatic top lighting. Blinged cover. Baking and broiling oven. Quicktop. Black enamel finish. Pull enamel finish. (Quality Series 2000)

With Your Old Range \$55.50

Regularly \$72.50  
Four round Quicktop burners. Automatic top lighting. Blinged cover. Baking and broiling oven. Quicktop. Black enamel finish. Pull enamel finish. (Quality Series A5400)

With Your Old Range \$59.75

Regularly \$72.50  
Four round Quicktop burners. Automatic top lighting. Blinged cover. Baking and broiling oven. Quicktop. Black enamel finish. Pull enamel finish. (Quality Series 2000)

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6 Cottage St., Portland 454 Main St., Westbrook

## Big Business Criticizes the President

By GEORGE L. KNAPP

The National Industrial Conference Board, an organization supported by business and mainly by Big Business, has issued a report on President Roosevelt's tax proposals which clearly indicated to serve as a campaign text book for high finance in the election struggle of next year. It might be summed up in the words of the old-time conservative, "It ain't right."

The National Industrial Conference Board is "the leading body of proposals, together and in detail."

"The message sent by the President to Congress on June 16," begins the NIBC, "is a complete and unqualified endorsement of the use of taxation for social and economic purposes. It is a fiscal document, but a statement of social and economic philosophy is to be used as a convenient instrument."

The Board admits later that "practically all students of taxation recognize that both social and fiscal objectives are involved in existing tax systems." But it takes the ground that the President is "primarily devoted to a policy of social and economic amelioration," and that this, somehow, is wrong.

Taking up the President's proposals in detail, the Board deals first with the tax on inheritance. Mr. Roosevelt, says the Board, is moved by "the desire to reach great accumulations of wealth and prevent their being passed on to the next generation." This desire, while it is approved by the general public when the President's message was printed, is strongly disapproved by the Board. Board says it is high enough now. "If any right of disposition in estate is to be retained by the owner of a large amount of property, the estate we would have as large as can be justified on any ground."

The Board proposed a graduated corporate tax in which a company is taxed not only according to profits but according to size. For example, the Associated Gas & Electric which has \$100,000,000 in assets would be taxed at 10 percent. The Board says it is high enough now. "If any right of disposition in estate is to be retained by the owner of a large amount of property, the estate we would have as large as can be justified on any ground."

## RFC Brings Uncle Sam Into Big Business

Uncle Sam is up to his ears in private business as a result of actions through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

The agency has bought equities in 6,483 of the 14,137 banks of the country, the investment being \$1,000,000. It was reported that this represents about a fourth of the total capital of the banks. The investment was made that stock buying had been discontinued except in unusual cases.

Chairman Jesse H. Jones declared that the operations of the RFC had created a surplus, and added:

"This proves that the government can do business with as good results as private business."

THE LABOR NEWS, IN A YEAR

Hersey's Shoe Store

ESTABLISHED 1879

Featuring Walk-Over Shoes

FOR MEN AND WOMEN

202-204 Water St. Augusta, Me.

**modernize at LOW COST**

**LOANS ARE NOW AVAILABLE**  
THROUGH THE NATIONAL HOUSING ACT, FOR REPAIRS, ALTERATIONS, IMPROVEMENTS

**ANSWERS—**  
concerning the National Housing Act  
1. Loans are available at Banks, etc., who are authorized against loss by the government.  
2. Loans from \$100 to \$2000 can be made for alterations, repairs, improvements.  
3. Loans are repaid in equal monthly payments within 5 years, at interest of not over 6 per cent.

Conditions were never more favorable for improving your property and making necessary repairs.

**MONEY IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE NATIONAL HOUSING ACT—**

**BUILDING MATERIALS ARE STILL AT LOW PRICE LEVELS—**

**"THE DEPARTMENT STORE FOR BUILDING" CAN COMPLETELY SUPPLY YOUR NEEDS AT ONCE.**

**AUGUSTA LUMBER CO.**  
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## Labor Day Greetings

to Union Men and Women and Their Families

WE APPRECIATE THE PATRONAGE OF ALL WORKING PEOPLE.

## Our Department Store

Always has Values That Provide Money-Saving Opportunities for the Thrifty

**D.W. Adams Co.**

AUGUSTA — MAINE





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## GREEN DENOUNCES COMMUNISTS FOR MAKING WAGNER-CONNERY DISPUTES ACT COMMON CAUSE WITH EMPLOYERS

Referring to Act as "The Magna Charta of Labor," and "The Greatest Victory in the History of the A. F. of L.," Federation Head Says He Has Never Before Found Such Opposition Manifested by Industry and Press as in This Instance.

New York City, Aug. 10 (ILNS)—Speaking to the convention of the International Longshoremen's Association, William Green, president of the nation, declared that the Wagner-Connery Labor Disputes Act is the Magna Charta of Labor, and denounced the Communists for making common cause with the manufacturers of the country against this bill.

Harry Bridges, left wing leader of the San Francisco delegation, had come to the convention with a plan to out President Joseph P. Ryan for his conservative stand in the longshoremen's strike in San Francisco last year. Instead of doing this, the convention adopted a resolution endorsing Ryan's action in dealing with that strike. The only vote recorded against that resolution was the vote of Bridges himself. The rest of the San Francisco delegation deserted him.

Later Ryan was re-elected as president without opposition. Meanwhile, word comes from Gut- port, Miss., that the longshoremen picketing the docks have been joined by hundreds of men from all the unions in the city. Martial law is expected at any moment. The police force of eight men, reinforced by special officers, left the longshoremen to keep order on the docks.

They themselves are patrolling the Negro quarters, where attempts have been made to introduce the race question in the strike by firing shotguns into Negro homes.

"That is why industry is fighting it. We know it will be taken to the Supreme Court because it is sponsored by labor, but we accept the challenge. We are prepared to employ the best legal talent available to protect this act, and the right it brings to labor."

Then President Green propounded a question that brought the audience to its feet with cheers: "What brought the Communists and the manufacturers together in this fight? What have they in common? That is what we want to know, and that is why there must be no compromise between the American Federation of Labor and the Communists of this country."

Though he did not mention the National Association of Manufacturers by name, Green's audience had no doubts as to whom he meant. He read excerpts from an article in an industrial magazine, urging employers to pay no attention to the provisions of the act. He said that chambers of commerce and trade organizations had flooded the White House with letters and telegrams attacking the act as "dangerous and destructive."

Praises NRA Record  
Early in his speech, Mr. Green took a few moments to lay a wreath on the grave of the Blue Eagle. He praised the NRA, though saying that its administrators had not done so far enough. It had helped to save many

## Gigantic Spy System Keeps German People in Constant Submission

"While Nazism is feverishly preparing for battle in all directions," the leader of the German Labor Front, Dr. Ley, has again announced his determination to reorganize the Labor Front, says a bulletin issued by the Transatlantic Information Service. This is the fifth or sixth time that such reorganization of the coordination of German labor movement takes place, but until now none of these changes has succeeded in bringing German workers into the Nazi fold. The latest brain-child of Dr. Ley is the establishment of chambers of commerce and other business organizations which are supposed to work in a capacity similar to the chambers of commerce and other business organizations. The new plan, however, seems to be dictated by the stern necessity of making new jobs for worthy Nazi followers, and thus to swell the bureaucracy with which Nazism has surrounded itself for its protection from the suppressed people.

The efficiency and thoroughness with which the German people are subordinated today and vicariously by their rulers are best demonstrated by a description of the German Labor Front organization in Saxony. Its total membership is 1,700,000. The new bureaucracy which Nazism has led to spy on and supervise those labor Front members, consists of a pro-bureaucracy of 12,000 "blackwater" or block captains (Nazi officials in charge of and responsible for the street work in which they live); 10,000 call captains (Nazi officials controlling work in their factories); 15,000 less the supervisors fulfilling more or less the same kind of work; 1,700 local section controllers; and finally, 27 section leaders who are the apex of Nazi control. These "blackwater" are tremendous; they are tax, wage and price raisers. As the result of this and other schemes, it is said wages of German workers have been halved during the past five years.

## Jacksonville Labor Hits Red Unemployed Council

Jacksonville, Fla., Aug. 10 (APL)—The Central Labor Union of Jacksonville unanimously condemned a circular distributed by the National Unemployed Council of Duval County attacking the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. The circular, headed "President Roosevelt," the Governor of Florida, and the entire FERA.

The demands listed by the Unemployed Council included "union wages on all relief projects." The Central Labor Union said the public would interpret this as meaning that the Unemployed Council was endorsing the labor unions of Jacksonville, which in fact it was designated as a Communist organization by the American Federation of Labor.

## An Opportunity, Not a Gift!

The Wagner-Connery Labor Disputes Act will be ignored in the factory and attacked in the courts by reactionary employers. But there are many reasons to believe that it will accomplish its purpose—if labor will organize to make full use of it.

The law was drawn so carefully that it will be difficult to a high degree to make the charge of unconstitutionality stick against it. The method employed to punish unfair labor practices, for example, is that which the Federal Trade Commission has used for 20 years to punish unfair trade practices. The right of labor to organize is not only safeguarded in words, but protected by a well laid out procedure.

But to turn this liberty of action into positive gains, labor must act, and act together. Congress has conferred on labor the chance to equal capital in bargaining power. Labor itself must utilize that chance. Higher wages and shorter hours, the end of the infamous stretch-out and the speed-up, labor itself must win these gains, on the field which the law clears for action. And labor can do this only by organizing.

## 100 Torpedo Station Employees Want to Build Own Homes

Newport, Rhode Island, Aug. 37—Employees at the Torpedo Station, who are members of Machinists' Lo-

cal 119, are anxious to build homes

of their own, and are seeking means for doing so through the Federal Housing Administration. Work at the station has greatly improved during the past year, and housing accommodations in Newport are at a low ebb, and therefore, there are nearly 100 machinists who are dissatisfied and have the urge to own a little home surrounded by land and plants and flowers and vegetables and in other ways enjoy the luxuries of a comfortable abode.

What means to do this through the

FHA have been the subject of serious consideration by groups of members of Local 119, and it is hoped arrangements can be made soon to carry out their aspirations.

Much information was secured at a meeting held in the Thomas St. Auditorium on Tuesday, July 16th, at which Thomas J. Connery, of Providence, attached to the FHA, was the principal speaker, and at which were present the nearly 100 prospective home owners and others interested in such projects.

Mr. Connery explained the set-up of the FHA, which loans 80 per cent of the cost of homes, the mortgages and carrying charges, these to be paid off in monthly installments over a period of 20 years.

Information secured from Mr. Connery, and the fact that steady employment at the Torpedo Station is assured for several years, has inspired members of Local 119 to own their own homes, and the result of the meeting was one of the principal subjects discussed at the last regular meeting of the union.

## Federal Social Security Fund Rules

Baltimore, Md., Aug. 17 (APL)—Herbert P. Hall, municipal budget director and chief accountant of the city, declared that Maryland lacks the necessary machinery to qualify for the proposed Federal grants for aid to dependent children, services for crippled children, child-welfare services and aid to the blind, contained in the Federal Social Security bill which has passed both houses of Congress and is temporarily blocked by disagreement in the Congressional conference committee.

The enactment early this year of the old-age pension law qualified the State for the Federal grant of not more than \$15 a month for each pensioner; but the passage of comparable measures is necessary if Maryland is to participate in the four social security features from which she is now barred.

## INCREASED WAGES IS FIRST STEP TO A BETTER DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH AND ESSENTIAL FOUNDATION FOR STABLE PROFITS

"Loss of control of national industries owing to the Supreme Court decision on NRA, has had several important effects," says the monthly survey of business by the American Federation of Labor. "Minimum hours and wages are now without their former legal status. Also, responsibility for 'pooling' low income groups and for securing a better distribution of the nation's income is thrown entirely upon voluntary agreements. Without code labor provisions, workers have no recourse but to organize and establish standards through their unions. The weakness of voluntary agreements is shown by the widespread wage reductions and lengthening of hours immediately following the decision of the Supreme Court, millions of workers having been affected thereby."

While corporation profits are still below the level of pre-depression years, these exceed those of last year and are well above 1932. Business failures have also been fewer. But increasing wages is the first step to a better distribution of wealth, and this is the essential foundation for stable profits for business, in the long run.

Business Profits  
The second result of the altered status was a series of price declines and the return of unfair competitive practices. This means a difficult readjustment for industry. This change is still in progress. Moreover, business journals are taking the view that Congress may pass laws, but that the Supreme Court is the final judge of their validity. Already, notice has been served that the Wagner Labor Disputes Act and other similar legislation will be contested in the courts.

On the bright side of the situation are several important factors having to do with the general betterment of the fiscal condition of industry. Real estate and also farm mortgages have been materially reduced since 1932. Building industry Reviving  
The building industry is at last showing signs of life, with home building this year showing 84 per cent above last year. Machine tool orders in May were 60 per cent above last year. Banks have a large surplus

Altered Status Brings Price Declines  
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## Tennessee Labor Rallies to Push TVA Legislation

Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 17 (ILNS)—Vigorous protests have been wired by organized labor to the members of Congress from Tennessee, the chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee and Speaker Byrnes against the efforts of power interests to knife TVA legislation.

R. S. McCann of Memphis, president of the Tennessee Federation of Labor, following the lead of the Chattanooga Trades and Labor Council, has telegraphed central bodies in the state to mobilize for a drive to push TVA legislation through Congress.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

**FROM MAINE TO FLORIDA**

**"AIR-CONDITIONED" AMERICAN GAS BEATS THERMOMETERS ON THEIR HOME GROUNDS**

IT'S no secret that gasoline motors are erratic in performance when you run into humidity and temperature changes. And it's no secret that you do get humidity and temperature changes, daily and monthly, both on short runs in your particular locality and on longer trips.

"AIR-CONDITIONED" American Gas beats thermometers on their home grounds. By carefully designing this gasoline to cover the weather variations in each locality during each month of the year, we have succeeded in making a gasoline which will give maximum performance throughout all weather conditions. "AIR-CONDITIONED" American Gas gives uniform, dependable performance on either short or long runs. Here's why:

We build into this gasoline some things no other regular gasoline has. We start out with a 100% Pure Petroleum Base. And we keep it pure. No acid is used in our refining operations. And we don't have to add any of the chemicals used in most other regular gasolines.

With the help of our new refinery and modern processes, we have turned out a regular gasoline so new—so modern—so different—that "air-conditioning" is only one of its features.

**OTHER GUARANTEED FEATURES!**

**CLEAN BURNING:** 100% Pure Petroleum Base—No Added Chemicals—100% clean burning—no harmful deposits.

**GREATER NET POWER:** "Air-Conditioned" gasoline plus clean burning guarantees superior performance. Hence, GREATER NET POWER.

**HIGHER ANTI-KNOCK:** By new processes—without acid treatment—in the world's most modern refinery, we obtain naturally, from 100% Pure Petroleum Base, a higher anti-knock value than other regular gasolines get artificially by the addition of chemicals to bring up anti-knock alone.

**MORE MILES:** Greater net power and higher anti-knock rating net more miles to the gallon than any other regular gasoline.

**"AIR-CONDITION" Your Motor!**

Stop at any Yellow and Black American Gas Pump and fill up your tank with "AIR-CONDITIONED" American Gas. Then keep your car "air-conditioned" with this amazing new "AIR-CONDITIONED" American Gas. Even though it costs us more to produce, it is being sold at regular gas prices from Maine to Florida and inland by thousands of American dealers and stations.

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**AIR-CONDITIONED AMERICAN GAS**

AMERICAN OIL COMPANY... Also makers of AMOCO-GAS... it's "AIR-CONDITIONED" too!





# A. F. OF L. ADDS MORE THAN MILLION MEMBERS DURING PAST TWO YEARS

Statement by Secretary Frank Morrison, in Address Before New York Allied Printing Trades—Praises Roosevelt Disputes Act and Pays Tribute to President Roosevelt and Senator Wagner—Predicts Economic Security for Masses of Working People.

"At last social security for the masses! That is being made possible through the 'Wagner-Connelly National Labor Disputes Act'." This is the prediction made by Frank Morrison, Secretary of the American Federation of Labor, in an address delivered in Elmira, N. Y., before the 19th convention of the Allied Printing Trades Council of New York State.

Mr. Morrison also called attention to the steady increase in the membership of the Federation, which he regarded as a most hopeful sign. He declared that despite the present mass unemployment, the union's affiliated with the A. F. of L. have added over a million persons to their membership during the last two years.

He contrasted this with the initial membership of the organization which, 25 years ago, numbered only slightly over 200,000 and which reached its maximum of over four million members in 1920. Changes in industry and the cessation of the abnormal demand for workers caused by the end of the World War, had practically cut the membership in two. But the organization held fast to its basic principles and, with the advent of the NRA, membership again took on a rapid increase, a million members having been gained during that period of transition.

Mr. Morrison called attention to the fact that the tremendous and persistent urge to invest and put into operation improved machinery, for the specific purpose of displacing human labor, had been largely responsible for much present mass unemployment.

This, in turn, must be combated with shorter hours to compensate for superabundance of the human element. The alternative is public relief.

Wagner Act Constitutional

Discussing the Wagner-Connelly Labor Disputes Act, which validates the principle of the right of organization upon the part of employees for the purpose of collective bargaining, Mr. Morrison stated that the law does not provide for arbitration, whether compulsory or otherwise. It is the right of the workers to organize and to bargain on their strength of their organization, without hindrance, interference or any form of employers' coercion.

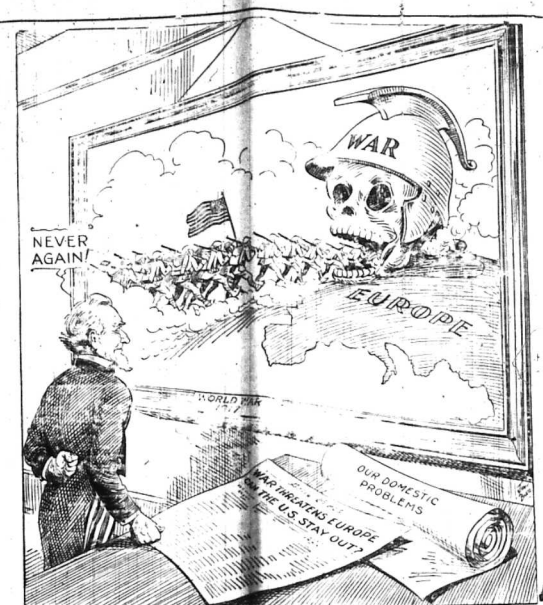
Secretary Morrison paid a high measure of praise not only to Senator Wagner and Congressman Connelly but also to the President for his strong and sympathetic support of the liberalizing legislation. He said:

"This measure will mean economic security to the workers, men and women, who have in the past been perpetually haunted by the two fears of old age and want. It will banish those old fears and replace them with the certainty of peace and contentment, in the worker's twilight years when he can no longer add his constructive might to the progress of industry, but to which he has hitherto devoted the best years of his life."

This is not mere benevolence. It is pure economic justice, too, because the laborer represents a stake in the nation's wealth, the stake of the highest order.

## Italy Has Money!

Drawn for LABOR by John M. Dyer



Italy is planning on going to war with the little and practically defenseless country of Ethiopia. Nothing in recent history approaches that spectacle of wanton and aggressive bullying of a small country by a large one. The city of it is that the idealistic League of Nations has shown its utter feebleness and helplessness in the face of the glaring crisis. This does not surprise any student of history, especially that who can look back to 1914, when the invasion of Belgium was perpetrated despite solemn treaties to this effect. If it comes about, may light a European and general world conflagration. It would be well for Uncle Sam to find out where he

is at. Foreign policy, we have none, and have had none for decades, save a pilot's attitude of self-effacement and a fatuous faith in paper promises. If Italy would pay its war debts to these cities as was taken by the workers in New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia.

"It is sincerely hoped that such a distressing situation can be avoided for this reason, the executive council recommends that all WPA building and construction projects be transferred to the PWA, which follows the rule of paring the prevailing rate wages for all work coming under its supervision and administration."

### WAGNER BILL

(Continued from Page 1)

Other Strikes Feared

"We are reliably informed that WPA work relief projects are launched in all the different cities through the country, including trades workers will take the same action in these cities as was taken by the workers in New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia."

prevailing wage rate established in each community. Through such a plan the government could put into effect its monthly security wage rates and the workers would be prevailing wage standards.

Wagner Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

players to bargain collectively with their employers through their own chosen representatives, and greatly deplored the fact the law was voided by the United States Supreme Court.

"But President Roosevelt and Congress, which in the main is sympathetic to the masses, came along with a law that is stronger and more stable than the NIRA. It goes further in protecting working people, and it is looked upon by President Green and other high officials in the Labor movement as their salvation."

Mr. Davidson pointed out that the movement to join the movement at once, and to those who were organized, he said, "in our opinion, the word of trade unionism work among the unemployed workers has been galvanized. Tell them of the benefits to be derived from the Wagner Act, as well as the Social Security Act."

Other speakers were Judge Perry E. Higgins of the Old Town Municipal Court; Organizer George Jaber of U. T. W. of A.; Charles McHale, vice-president of the Maine State Federation of Labor; and legislative agent for the Federation. The latter, William McGee, who said that while no complete statistics were available, the general feeling in the trade was that the Wagner Act was definitely improving the economic situation of the unemployed. As to the cotton textile industry, he described as not being so favorable and the immediate outlook was not especially encouraging.

employees at the Cocheco Mills in New England and a committee was appointed to confer with State welfare authorities to aid in relief work. McGee said that he had been out on strike for the past three months in opposition to the wage cut.

New York advances on the Cotton Textile Institute are to the effect that an early resumption of normal buying would depend upon uniformity of action in the textile industry itself. This especially relates to the purchase of raw cotton, which has been the subject of considerable adjustments on the AAA production taxes which have been a drag upon the industry.

Wages have been raised in some cases, but should be finally repealed, or annulled, correspondingly. McGee said that he had been out on strike for the past three months in opposition to the wage cut.

Wake Up Refreshed Every Morning on A

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**PACIFIC COAST OPEN SHOP THEATRICAL WORKERS BROUGHT INTO UNIONIZED EAST, CAUSED UNPLEASANT RELATIONS HERE**

While Crowds Are Attracted to Quiet and Peaceful Grafton, to Witness Filming of "Ah, Wilderness," A Black Cloud Hovers Over 20 "Scabs" Brought Here From California to Stage Theatrical Scenes—Vice President of I. A. T. S. E. Unable to Straighten Out Tangle.

Worcester, Massachusetts, Aug. 16.—When a group of union men travel from one part of the country to another, they step off the train and with heads up, greet fellow workers with a hearty "hello" and "how are you?" and in other terms which indicate real good fellowship.

Not so with the 20 non-union men shipped from Hollywood to do the camera and timing work in Grafton where the Metro-Goldwyn Mayer Co. Pacific Coast non-union outfit is, staging "Ah, Wilderness." When they arrived here, they were a sulky lot on their physical, and snarled in their minds, and afraid someone would accuse them of being scabs.

This is the first instance where non-union men have been engaged in filming a picture in any city. Employees of the Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employees, and the Pacific Coast Open Shop Theatricals, pictured that aggression, who he said, felt uncomfortable when they arrived in the Eastern territory, which is thoroughly organized under the jurisdiction of the International Alliance.

"These fellows," Mr. Walsh said, "feel free to exercise their independence in the non-union Pacific Coast territory, but when they come to the horse of another color." They fully realize their position, and the union men are determined to smash our unions on the Coast, and if you could see them do so, when arriving here, you could not help noticing the sneaking way in which they go to and from their jobs.

"All efforts to have the Grafton job done by union theatrical employees have failed. The management did not place any barrier to the employment of union carpenters, electricians, musicians, truck drivers, painters, and others," but drew a strong line of demarcation when it came to the employment of cameramen and other workers who come under our jurisdiction."

As far as Mr. Walsh could recall, this is the first instance where non-union men have been engaged in filming a picture in any city. Employees of the Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employees, and the Pacific Coast Open Shop Theatricals, pictured that aggression, who he said, felt uncomfortable when they arrived in the Eastern territory, which is thoroughly organized under the jurisdiction of the International Alliance.

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**Woolen and Worsted "Keeping Maine Money in Maine" Strongly Endorsed Policy**

Improving but Cotton Industry is Lagging

At their meeting held this week at Manchester, the New Hampshire Textile Council heard predictions of a considerable increase on worsted textiles for the Fall and Winter months. This was generally supported by President William McGee, who said that while no complete statistics were available, the general feeling in the trade was that the Wagner Act was definitely improving the economic situation of the unemployed. As to the cotton textile industry, he described as not being so favorable and the immediate outlook was not especially encouraging.

employees at the Cocheco Mills in New England and a committee was appointed to confer with State welfare authorities to aid in relief work. McGee said that he had been out on strike for the past three months in opposition to the wage cut.

**Gatelee Succeeds Late William F. Dillon as New England Organizer**

A. F. OF L. PRESIDENT (Continued from Page 1)

John F. Gatelee, president of the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor, the Springfield Central Labor Council, and legislative agent for the Federation. The latter, William McGee, who said that while no complete statistics were available, the general feeling in the trade was that the Wagner Act was definitely improving the economic situation of the unemployed. As to the cotton textile industry, he described as not being so favorable and the immediate outlook was not especially encouraging.

**Modern Dairy Plant Opened in Augusta**

One of the finest and most modern, fully equipped milk plants in Maine, the new plant of the Augusta Dairy Co. is a chapel street, owned and managed by George W. Brown, of the Pine Tree State's automobile owners, who show preference for this type of plant. The new plant is a sample of the excellent pasteurized milk given to all visitors.

## SENATE PASSES SENATOR WALSH'S WAGE BILL BANNING KICK-BACK PLANS ON GOVERNMENT WORKS PROJECTS

Washington, D. C., Aug. 17 (APL)—The Senate passed and sent to the House of Representatives the Walsh wage bill making it illegal for contractors to pay kick-backs for construction work.

valuing wage on all Federal projects. A year's investigation by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor disclosed that many contractors have victimized their employees through direct kick-back method. To prevent these fraudulent practices the Senate Labor Committee recommended and the Senate passed the Walsh bill which includes provisions to:

1. Guarantee payment of local prevailing wages to all laborers and mechanics on Federal construction in excess of \$2,000, where not in conflict with existing law.

2. The Bacon-Davis Act, which requires Federal building construction in excess of \$5,000.

Provide pre-determination of all prevailing wages on contracts so contractors will know labor costs in advance.

Without payments to contractors to reimburse workers not paid prevailing wages.

Coordinate departmental activities so that the Government will be in a position to enforce the law.

Provide for the payment of workers victimized by forced rebates by allowing them the same right of action against contractors as is now conferred by the bond statute on persons furnishing labor and materials here. There are no funds to withhold for reimbursement.

It is expected the bill will be favorably reported by the House Labor Committee and be immediately applicable to all contract work under the \$4,500,000,000 work relief fund.

Senator David I. Walsh

tractions on Government projects to use various "kick-back" schemes under which thousands of employees have been compelled to "kick back" into the employers' pockets a considerable portion of their pay as the price charged for their jobs.

The Bacon-Davis bill, enacted several years ago, prescribed that contractors should pay employees the prevailing wage on all Federal projects.

It is expected the bill will be favorably reported by the House Labor Committee and be immediately applicable to all contract work under the \$4,500,000,000 work relief fund.

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## WYPOSSET STRIKE CALLED OFF, BUT WHILE NOT BEING SUCCESSFUL AFFAIR, BROUGHT SOME VALUABLE EXPERIENCE

Members of Loom Fixers' 476 Were Greatly Handicapped by Large Number of Men With Smattering of Knowledge Which Aided Company to Hold Out—Organizer Robert Tells How Lights Went Out in Hall After Turning Company Union Meeting Into U. T. W. Affair.

Pawtucket, Rhode Island, Aug. 16.—Loom Fixers' 476 in the Wyposset Mills in Pawtucket, who were on strike against a wage cut for nearly six weeks, returned to work after a vote was taken by Local 486 in favor of calling off the strike.

In referring to the incident, Business Agent John H. Powers said that while the local had lost its strike, it was not regarded as a serious loss. He said that the strike would have resulted in a loss of \$4,500,000,000 work relief fund.

greatly to the benefit of the union. Mr. Powers said the odds were heavier against the union than in any strike he has ever experienced. He said that the strike was called off because the company had access to a goodly number of men who, though inexperienced, had a smattering knowledge of the work and got through in a fashion.

Realizing that the strike would have resulted in a loss of \$4,500,000,000 work relief fund, Mr. Powers said that the strike was called off because the company had access to a goodly number of men who, though inexperienced, had a smattering knowledge of the work and got through in a fashion.

Organizer Henry Hebert, who until recently represented the U. T. W. in the Biddeford-Saco District, in referring to the meeting, which was sponsored by the company union, writes that he and Organizer Higgins walked into the hall, and with others, turned it into a U. T. W. of A. affair.

The company union leaders became exasperated over this turn of affairs, and in a moment of impatience, put the lights out and Organizer Higgins was addressing the meeting. This caused a lot of confusion, which was finally quieted when the police, after considerable trouble, discovered the switch and turned the lights on.

"San Thomas," said Organizer Hebert, "was a former member of the U. T. W. of A. local, as was also Miss Madeline Gough, who since her deserting the union, has become prominently identified with the company organization."

"Another interesting incident as the result of the strike was a statement purported to have been made by one of the officials of the company union, which Secretary Powers of Loom Fixers was referred to as an able leader—a man who can hold a body of men together without a break in the ranks for such a long time. Demonstrating ability and leadership that makes him especially well fit for a higher position. It is what the company official is reported to have said."

labor is quite willing to accept the monthly security wage rate. We are successfully securing work relief at a rate of \$50, \$60, \$70 or \$85 per week. We will gladly and willingly cooperate with the government in the acceptance and application of any plan or program which may be decided upon for dependent workers who are upon the relief rolls.

"The American Federation of Labor asks only that the prevailing local standard wage be maintained in the payment of the monthly security wage. That is, that the sum of hours worked per month by relief workers shall be based upon a basis that the worker would earn the monthly security wage at the hourly

## Uxbridge Workers' Note Favors Ending of Six Weeks' Strike

The six weeks' strike waged by five local unions against the Uxbridge Worsted Company, with mills in Uxbridge and Lowell, Woonsocket and Pascoag, R. I., and Putnam, Conn., in which nearly 5000 workers were affected, was settled on August 2nd, and all hands returned to work on the following Tuesday.

That the settlement, which contained five points, is not entirely satisfactory but accepted, in one which it is hoped will terminate with greater satisfaction later on, was the opinion expressed by officials of the Uxbridge Workers' Union.

Members of Uxbridge Local 2056 and Woonsocket Local 1516, were greatly opposed to settling on terms offered by Manager Walters. They were determined to hold out unless the three-shift plan was eliminated, but with a majority of Lowell workers breaking away, and similar action taken by the Pascoag and Putnam workers, there was nothing else to do.

Showing its dynamism, however, and wholly characteristic of the broad of unionism among textile workers which prevails in the Central Massachusetts district, Uxbridge Local 2056 was the last to accept the terms of settlement.

The meeting at which the vote given on taking final action was held, showed refusal to return to work was almost unanimous, but when it was shown the chances were slim for better terms at this time, and that an agreement with the Conference Board that workers would terminate the strike providing three of the five local units voted to do so, members of Local 2056 finally decided to accept the offer, under which the five following points are included:

1.—The management and representatives of the employees will get together about Sept. 1 at the call of Carl E. Gill, mediator for the Textile Labor Relations Board, to discuss the advisability of limitation of production machinery.

2.—The company will continue the operation of the 40-hour week as provided under the code of fair competition of the woolen and worsted industry.

3.—There will be no discrimination for union affiliation or strike activity for members of the woolen and worsted industry.

4.—Stiles will be defined as to number of looms per operative and the company agree to equalization of wages and work load in all of its mills.

5.—In about two months from the present date, the management agrees to meet the representatives of the employees to discuss the general wage situation.

Section 5 of the agreement was deemed to return to work. At this meeting, it is thought the union will be able to convince the management that the three-shift plan is not only detrimental to the well-being of operatives but uneconomical from the standpoint of production and profitability of the industry.

In relating to the settlement, an official of Local 2056 said it proved quite a difficult task to make the members realize to attempt to stick it out after four of the five local units had taken a vote to accept the terms agreed upon, would not be at all longer.

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all fruitful. They were very much opposed to a settlement that did not eliminate the third shift. They recalled the action of the Department, which organization went on record as unambiguously opposed to that system, as well as the fact that the elimination of the third shift as a means for doing away with long spells following the completion of orders.

But reason prevailed, and the fact that the five provisions for further readjustment, adopted September 16, was finally decided to act in accordance with the vote taken by the other four local unions.

What effect the settlement will have on other manufacturers regarding the three-shift plan is, of course, problematical, and any move in this direction is watched with great interest. It is a well known fact that at least half a dozen or more manufacturers in the Central Massachusetts district are opposed to resuming operations on this system, and while not shouting this from the house-tops, it is known they had hoped the unions would be successful in inducing the management to plan.

It is also known they looked upon the Uxbridge Worsted Company's action as "pretty small potatoes" and referred to it as anything but compulsory terms.

Just at this moment, when G. O. P. politicians and renegade Democrats, minions of finance industries who fear the Administration is going too far in its efforts to widen the scope of the New Deal through Federal aid to the Constitution as a means for bringing about a more equitable distribution of the wealth of the nation, the following is reproduced from a recent bulletin issued by the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, which is in refutation of statements to the effect that the country has not made progress under the New Deal.

Employment: Has gained 50 per cent in heavy industries since March, 1933; shows a lesser advance in consumer industries. The unemployed are now estimated at about 9,000,000.

Automobiles: First half production was 35 per cent over same period last year.

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## MILINERY WORKERS ESTABLISH 35-HOUR WEEK BY UNION CONTRACTS

Gains in Pay and Working Conditions Won Under Recovery Act Made Permanent by Series of Collective Agreements in Nation's Leading Millinery Centers—85 Per Cent of Industry Organized.

New York City, Aug. 14 (ILNS)—The gains won by the millinery workers during the operation of the National Industrial Recovery Act, including the 35-hour and five-day week, are made permanent in all of the millinery centers of the nation as a result of a series of collective agreements which have just been negotiated and ratified. Max Tarkenton, president of the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers' International Union, announced here, following his return to New York, where the last of the agreements was signed.

Approximately 10,000 workers, representing about one-third of the number engaged in the industry, are affected by these agreements. The cover, besides St. Louis, which is the

third largest millinery center, Chicago, which is the second largest, Milwaukee and Philadelphia. The adoption of these agreements makes the 35-hour and five-day week permanent for about 85 per cent of the industry, which is unionized in New York, where the bulk of the union membership is located, and represents 600,000 workers belonging to the union. The 35-hour week has been in effect by collective agreement for some 10 years and one-half.

The victory of the millinery workers, even without a strike in any of the nation's millinery centers, was achieved as a result of an intensive organization drive undertaken by the union immediately following the Supreme Court decision invalidating the recovery Act.

By to investigate, through its power to subpoena witnesses and gain access to all pertinent evidence. To enforce its decisions, the Board is authorized to issue cease and desist orders, enforceable in the courts. In no instance will the Board assume mediation.

The Act does not provide for arbitration, either voluntary or compulsory, nor does it deprive the workers of the right to strike.

The application of this Act is limited to firms whose business affects interstate commerce, but exactly in that case the law will remain to be decided by the National Labor Relations Board and affirmed by the Courts.

Rights of Workers The backbone of the Act is Section 7 in which basic right of employees are stated.

Sec. 7 Employees shall have the right to self-organization, to form, join, or assist labor organizations, to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, and to engage in concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection.

This language is similar to that of Section 7 (a) of the NLRB. But Section 7 (a) was made a part of a code of fair competition while Section 7 of the

advances in the price of meats. It is true, this would be of no industrial unrest, the struggle to make wages keep pace with increasing costs.

Disputes Act is the law of the land in its own right.

In addition to this Act, which is termed by President William Green of the American Federation of Labor as "The Magna Charta of Labor," the Social Security Act signed by the President last Wednesday, and referred to as one of his original ideas in forming the great program for social reform, gives workers further protection, which they already recognize as placing them in a position where they can declare their independence with the full protection of the government behind them should any concerted effort be formulated by large employers to maintain their stranglehold on their employees.

Removal of Evils One of the worst evils which for many years interfered with the progress of bona fide organizations among workers in mass industries were private pensions, insurance schemes and other welfare plans. While some of these might have been worthy, it is nevertheless true that the principal objects were to keep workers tied down to their jobs, and to be content with such conditions as employers saw fit to deal out to them.

Under the Social Security Act, private pension systems toward which employers contribute, only to lose their all through bankruptcy, change of ownership, or for other reasons, are prohibited. The Act provides that these workers reaching middle age have been proven time and again were demoralized on trumped-up

charges before reaching the expiration of the pension period.

In formulating the Act, these abuses and the fact that this country can not maintain its stability while 10 to 15 millions are unemployed, was uppermost in the President's mind. With the government back of a pension system and the President's guarantee that guarantees a certain sum each week, there can be no question regarding the future stability of the nation.

Objections Removed It is estimated there are more than 100,000 workers employed in mass production industries in Maine. Not all, but a goodly proportion of these workers have for some time expressed a desire to affiliate with bona fide labor unions. In most cases, there were objections on the part of certain groups because of factory plans in which they were financially interested that interfered with their progress.

With the passage of the National Labor Relations Act and the Social Security Act, these obstacles have been removed, and the way paved in the minds of workers that nothing can now interfere with carrying out their intentions of joining bona fide trade unions.

Followed by an analysis of the Social Security Act and what it does: The law sets up systems of old age pensions and unemployment insurance and special care for dependent children and mothers. To finance it, a vast tax program has been included in the law.

Before the law can become effective there must be appointed an administrative board of three members, named by the President, to supervise the general workings of the law.

The graduated system of taxes will impose an annual assessment of six per cent on employers' payrolls after 1940, in addition to three per cent contributed by workers. By the year 1950, it is estimated that the National Old Age Pension reserve fund alone, will contain almost \$4 billion dollars.

Main Purpose of Law There will be Federal benefits to the individual States on a basis of population to needy old persons over 65. These are provided through a \$500,000,000 authorization for the 1936 fiscal year. However, the government share in such pensions is limited to \$15 a month in each unit case.

Beginning in 1940, contributory old age pensions, ranging from \$10 to \$55 a month are contemplated. These funds will be raised by eventually taxing workers three per cent each on salaries up to \$2000 a year.

In 1937, 1938 and 1939, the tax on workers and employers will be one per cent each, increasing one half per cent each. This is estimated to embrace 15 million workers. By the year 1950 it is expected to raise almost two billion annually.

A tax will also be placed on payrolls of employers. This is to encourage States to set up unemployment insurance systems. Deductions up to 50 per cent will be allowed for payments made to State funds. Benefits will be fixed by State laws.

Minimums and Exemptions Beginning next year, employers of 25 or more workers will be liable for the unemployment benefit. The rate for the unemployment benefit will be increased to ten per cent in 1937, and three per cent

in 1938. From this tax it is expected to raise almost a billion dollars.

Subsidy A Federal subsidy of four million dollars in 1936 and 49 million subsequently, is provided to assist States in administering unemployment insurance.

Additional appropriations totaling 50 million dollars, the first year, for aid to dependent or crippled children, mothers' aid and other allied welfare assistance are provided. Such funds are to be matched by the States receiving the same.

First Law Making (Continued from Page 1) day, but it was not until 1937 that the States initiated the movement to make Labor Day a legal State holiday.

First Law Enacted by Oregon Oregon enacted the first State law in 1887. The legislature fixed the first Saturday in June as Labor Day, but in September, 1931, changed the date to the first Monday in September.

The act of Oregon was followed in quick succession by the legislatures of Colorado, New Jersey, New York and Massachusetts, all of them enacting Labor Day laws in 1887.

The first eighth State to enact the Labor Day law was Wyoming, whose legislature enacted a Labor Day law in 1923.

A. & P. Store System Important Maine Industry

It is about 20 years since the Atlantic & Pacific stores were first established in Maine. During the intervening time, their growth and prosperity has kept pace with the business of the community, wherever they have been located. Today, this great food merchandising system is one of the important industries, not only of Maine but also of New England and other States in the Nation.

At the present time, L. W. Thompson is in charge of the Portland unit of the company and as a matter of fact he has been one of the early pioneers in expanding the activities of the A. & P. Stores in Maine. Mr. Thompson is also vice-president of the New England division of the A. & P. Stores, which are distributing headquarters for the States of Maine and New Hampshire, and including a large territory in Vermont.

Products of Maine to the extent of over 11 millions of dollars were purchased in 1934, by Mr. Thompson's company, which sum exceeds the total amount of money received from sales in that State during the same period. This is for the reason that large quantities of Maine products are purchased for shipment to other parts of the country. Vice-President Thompson is optimistic both with regard to the future of the A. & P. Company and to the economic future of the whole State of Maine.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

## And They Say Roosevelt's New Deal Is No Good!

Just at this moment, when G. O. P. politicians and renegade Democrats, minions of finance industries who fear the Administration is going too far in its efforts to widen the scope of the New Deal through Federal aid to the Constitution as a means for bringing about a more equitable distribution of the wealth of the nation, the following is reproduced from a recent bulletin issued by the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, which is in refutation of statements to the effect that the country has not made progress under the New Deal.

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silver stocks to large quantities. Agriculture: It is estimated that the farm's 1935 income will be about the same as in 1934, which registered a billion-dollar jump over 1933. Crops will be larger this year than last, but prices will probably be lower.

E. C. Davison, Union Labor Mayor, Supports Shirt Factory Strikers

Alexandria, Va., July 26 (APL)—E. C. Davison, Mayor of Alexandria, and 25 women workers who walked out of the plant of the Century Manufacturing Company here in militant

protest against a 10 per cent wage cut, that they would have the full moral support of the city government in their demand for decent living standards. In addition to being mayor, Mr. Davison is secretary-treasurer of the International Association of Machinists, with headquarters in Washington, D. C.

The Century concerning manufacturers shirts. According to strikers leaders, the 10 per cent reduction in wages knocked the pay of average workers down to \$10 a week. The strike was in charge of a representative of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, who announced that all but ten of the 100 operators in the plant were enrolled in the union.

Mayor Davison told the strikers that he would have the protection of the police against outside interference with the orderly progress of the strike and that rather than work for starvation wages they should go on the picket line.

When he was informed that the management of the company threatened to remove the plant from Alexandria unless the wage cut was accepted, Mayor Davison said that the workers will not pay decent and respectable wages, we will be very glad to have them move to the city."

Fr. Coughlin Deplores Closed Avenues For Nation's Youth

The appearance this week of the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin on Beacon Hill, Boston, where he made an address to the Legislature, created something of a friendly tumult for the time being. He had come to Massachusetts on a short vacation and stated that he had stopped at the Capitol to see his old friend, Governor Curley.

In subsequent interviews, he expressed his concern for what he termed the plight of youth in the present depression. He attributed much of this condition to the present wage scale, which he declared was generally insufficient. Boys and girls coming from high schools find nothing to which they can turn their hands. The solution, he said, is not to depend on rich, which means Socialism, but in a more equal distribution of wealth as it is now being created.

Fr. Coughlin touched upon the removal of the plant from Alexandria, stating that the high cost of living was largely responsible for the same. He alluded to what he called three important groups which hold the balance of political power—the retailers, the textile workers and the consuming public. The housewife has been confronted with a tremendous increase in the cost of living and is naturally resentful. It costs her now three times as much as before to furnish meals for the family. This has been caused by the processing act which the textile workers object.

Fr. Coughlin alluded to the wretched slaughter of six million little pigs which had resulted in appalling



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